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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

Washington, DC 20515

March 19, 2018

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
READINESS  
MILITARY PERSONNEL

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR  
WORKFORCE PROTECTION  
HEALTH, EMPLOYMENT, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

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Chairwoman Kay Granger  
House Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Defense  
H-405, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Ranking Minority Member Pete Visclosky  
House Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Defense  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Minority Member Visclosky:

As you consider the fiscal year 2019 Department of Defense Appropriations bill, I respectfully request that you include an increase of \$10 million to the Ocean Warfighting Environment Applied Research, Navy RDT&E, Line 10, PE 0602435N.

In 2017, under direction from the Chief of Naval Operations, the U.S. Navy launched Task Force Ocean (TFO), co-chaired by Chief of Naval Research (CNR) and the Oceanographer of the Navy, to improve understanding of the current state of ocean science and how collaborations can be strengthened to help maintain competitive advantage in the undersea domain.

It is paramount that the U.S. Navy maintain its competitive advantage in the undersea domain against competitor nation-states and dangerous actors willing to inflict harm to the United States and its citizens. Therefore, additional funding for this program is necessary to foster research at sea that helps the Navy meet its goals and improve operations.

Testing and demonstration of science and technology concepts in many areas is required, including studies and new approaches to real-time characterizations conducted by an integrated program that may include seagoing oceanography, acoustics, signal processing, unmanned systems, and data analytics for achieving enhanced performance in the undersea battlespace. The extramural naval S&T community housed at academic institutions around the nation are well positioned to assist the Navy in meeting these challenges.

Increasing the funds in this account will help ensure these critical research and technical capabilities will occur at the proper level. I respectfully request your support for this important programmatic increase, and we appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carol Shea-Porter  
Member of Congress